

State of New Hampshire
FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

INVESTIGATION/INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT: Lost Hiker, Gorge Brook Trail, Mt. Moosilauke, Benton

INCIDENT DATE: 5/11/2019-5/13/2019

VICTIM: Arun Anand, DOB

On May 11, 2019 at around 11:00 pm I received a call from Lt. James Kneeland. Lt. Kneeland asked that I respond to the Ravine Lodge on Mt. Moosilauke for an overdue hiker for whom he had been coordinating a search. I responded and arrived at the lodge at around 12:55 am and met with Lt. Kneeland. He told me we were looking for a male subject identified as,

Arun Anand, DOB

Collegeville, PA 19426

Anand was hiking with a group of students from Dartmouth College in Hanover. The group was undertaking the hike as part of class to get a college credit. There were several group leaders. I was told that Anand was last seen at around 8:30 am on May 11. He was approximately 1.5 miles up the trail with the group when he decided to discontinue the hike and turned back to hike back to the lodge. He decided his footwear was inappropriate for the hike and he should stop hiking and go back to the lodge. One of the group leaders spoke to Anand before he turned back and was aware that he was hiking back alone. The rest of the group continued on the hike and arrived back at the Ravine Lodge later in the day. At some point they realized that Anand was nowhere to be found and it was assumed he did not return to the Lodge. Fish and Game was notified at around 8:00 pm.

Lt. Kneeland advised that he had volunteers from the Pemigewasset Valley Search and Rescue Team, the Upper Valley Wilderness Search and Rescue Team, and New England K9 Search and Rescue currently searching different areas on the mountain. Kneeland showed me a map of where it was believed Anand was last seen on the Gorge Brook Trail. He advised it was an approximate location based on what the group leader could remember. Kneeland told me he would have to leave the search at some point in the early morning and that if we did not find Anand I would take over coordinating search efforts the next day. He suggested getting Lt. Mark Ober to assist in the search coordination.

After all the searchers returned from their search areas early in the morning of May 12 I began to make plans for search efforts for the rest of the day. I called Lt. Ober and asked that he assist me in the coordination efforts. He came to the command post where we decided on what areas would be priorities for search teams for the day. Fish and Game Conservation Officers were called to respond to the search. We also used volunteers from the Pemigewasset Valley Search and Rescue Team, Upper Valley Search and Rescue Team, the Lakes Region Search and Rescue Team, and New England K9. I also coordinated

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with personnel from Dartmouth College to get volunteers from the college to assist. DHART also provided a helicopter to search and the NH Army National Guard provided a helicopter to search for Anand.

Lt. Ober was able to work with the Civil Air Patrol who has a cellular phone forensics team. We provided information to them about Anand's cellular phone. They were able to determine that he made a phone call to 911 at around 9:38 am on May 11. The GPS coordinates for the location where the 911 call was placed from was given as 44.0098330, 71.8279670. We were able to confirm with NH 911 that they did receive a phone call from Anand's cellular phone at that time. They said there was no audio from the call and after the call was dropped the operator attempted to call the number back but was unable to get a call through and did not speak with anyone. We were also told that around the same time the 911 call was made, one of the people in the hiking party received a call from Anand but the call was dropped and he did not speak with him. Anand's father also received a text message from him at around the same time the 911 call was placed. The text message showed some GPS coordinates but Anand's father did not know why he had sent them. He told me he assumed he was just communicating where they were on their hike but did not really know at the time what the significance was. Upper Valley Wilderness Search and Rescue volunteers had been in the area of the coordinates from where the 911 call was made sometime in the early morning of May 12 but did not find any signs of Anand at that time.

At around 5:40 pm on May 12, Officer McFadzen and his search team found a blue Glacier Point water bottle. From all the information we had received relative to what Anand was carrying on his hike, we thought this was not something he had with him. We were working with Tim Burdick from Dartmouth College throughout the search and he was made aware of the water bottle being located. He was able to contact people who had been on the hike and explain to them about the bottle. One of the hiking party confirmed that he had given a water bottle fitting that description to Anand to use on the hike. The location where MacFadzen found the bottle was in the same area the 911 call was placed. When search teams finished searching their assigned areas for the day we suspended the search for the night. Lt. Ober and I then developed a plan to resume searching on Monday, May 13.

On May 13 I arrived at the Ravine Lodge and met with Lt. Ober to continue planning to resume the search. We had Conservation Officers and volunteers from the same organizations that assisted in the search on Sunday. All of the teams were sent to the areas that Lt. Ober and I had planned to have searched that morning. At 9:28 am Conservation Officer Canfield radioed that his team had found Anand on the Gorge Brook Trail. The coordinate he was found at was 44.003545, 71.824003. Canfield and his team were using the trail to access their search team when they found Anand descending the trail towards the Ravine Lodge. He had no shoes on when they located him. He had a piece of blue plastic material tied around one foot. The team assisted Anand in walking to the trailhead where he was transferred into a Linwood ambulance. He was transported to DHMC in Lebanon by ambulance. I spoke to several people in the group that found him and they told me that Anand said he was doing something on his phone shortly after he left the group on Saturday and he went off the trail at that time.

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After confirming that all the searchers were out of the woods I drove to DHMC in Lebanon to talk with Anand. I met him there in the emergency room where he was being treated for frostbite on his feet. He told me that during the hike he was up near the front of the group and realized his footwear was not adequate and he wanted to turn back. He said he talked to one of the group leaders at the end of the group and she told him to follow the brook back. Tim Burdick had earlier identified the group leader as Tracie Williams to Lt Ober and me. He said that she tried to get somebody to go back with him but he said it was not necessary. A short time after he left the group he realized he was off trail and did not know where he was. I asked him about the statement he made to the searchers that found him about doing something on his phone when he lost the trail. He did confirm that he was doing something on his phone when he went off trail. He told me he lost his shoes some time on Saturday but did not know exactly when. He also could not tell me where he got off the trail. He also confirmed that he had called a friend in the hiking group, placed a 911 call, and texted his father, all within a few minutes.

He said that during the day he found a spot that he could find his way back to. He would leave this spot and look for the trail and then return to that spot. He said he found another similar spot later that he used in the same way. He said that he would go down to the brook when he got thirsty. He said he would stay still at night and try to sleep. When he woke up on May 13 he decided he was going to have to find his way out or he would die there. He eventually found the trail and said he was crawling on it and then just laid there on it. He said he had gotten up and started walking a short time before searchers found him.



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

HEADQUARTERS: 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6500
(603) 271-3421
FAX (603) 271-5829

wildnh.com
e-mail: info@wildlife.nh.gov
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

June 10, 2019

Mr. Joe Helble
Office of the Provost
Dartmouth College
6004 Parkhurst Hall, Suite 111
Hanover, New Hampshire 03755

Dear Mr. Helble:

Enclosed, please find a cost breakdown outlining expenses expended associated with the search and rescue mission of Arun Anand, a Dartmouth College student who became lost on Mt. Moosilauke located in Woodstock, New Hampshire while participating in a Dartmouth College outing.

As you are aware, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department has the authority under certain circumstances to require individuals who received lifesaving services to be billed for expenses incurred.

After our recent discussion surrounding this incident, you indicated that Dartmouth College would be willing to cover expenses in full, \$18,724.61. This amount does not cover the cost of the services of the New Hampshire Army National Guard Helicopter Response Team, which totaled \$16,908.40. Should an invoice from the New Hampshire National Guard be forwarded to this Department for payment I will be reaching out to you to also cover this cost.

Please remit payment of \$18,724.61 to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, Law Enforcement Division, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.

We appreciate your pro-activeness in contacting us with regards to making a donation to cover the costs associated with this search and rescue mission. We are pleased that Arun was rescued as this most certainly could have been a deadly outcome.

Sincerely,

Colonel Kevin Jordan
Chief of Law Enforcement

c: Lieutenant James E. Kneeland

REGION 1 District Three Chief

629B Main Street
Lancaster, NH 03584-3612
(603) 788-3164
FAX (603) 788-4823
email: reg1@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 2

PO Box 417
New Hampton, NH 03256
(603) 744-5470
FAX (603) 744-6302
email: reg2@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 3

225 Main Street
Durham, NH 03824-4732
(603) 868-1095
FAX (603) 868-3305
email: reg3@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 4

15 Ash Brook Court
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-9669
FAX (603) 352-8798
email: reg4@wildlife.nh.gov



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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www.WildNH.com
e-mail: info@wildlife.nh.gov
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

PRESS RELEASE

May 13, 2019

CONTACT: Sergeant Tom Dakai
Region Two Office, New Hampton, NH
603-744-5470
603-271-3361

Missing Dartmouth Student Located

Woodstock – The Dartmouth College student who went missing Saturday near Mt. Moosilauke was located on the Gorge Brook Trail by a search party at approximately 9:30 a.m. this morning. Officials say that Arun Anand was discovered hiking down the trail by a team that was on their way to an assigned search grid, approximately 1 mile from the Mt. Moosilauke Lodge.

Details as to what actually happened to Anand over the past 48 hours are still unclear, but it appears that he lost the trail and was wandering around in the woods off the trail. Searchers who had been looking for Anand for the past 3 days encountered deep snow, dense understory, and steep terrain. Anand was located without any footwear, which indicates he likely lost them while negotiating deep snow.

Rescuers provided Anand with food, water, warm clothing and a pair of hiking boots. After an initial assessment, he was hiked out the 1 mile to the lodge. Anand was met at the lodge by his grateful family and a slew of rescuers who had dedicated multiple hours searching for him over the past 3 days.

Anand was provided a medical assessment by the by EMS personnel from the Linwood Ambulance, and ultimately transported to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for precautionary reasons.

Fish and Game again received search support from volunteers from the Pemigewasset Valley Search and Rescue (PEMI SAR), New England K-9 Search & Rescue (NEK9), Upper Valley Wilderness Response Team (UVWRT), and the Lakes Region Search and Rescue Team. The Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter also returned to conduct aerial searches of the area.

No further information available at this time.

REGION 1

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REGION 2

PO Box 417
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REGION 3

225 Main Street
Durham, NH 03824-4732
(603) 868-1095
FAX (603) 868-3305
email: reg3@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 4

15 Ash Brook Court
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-9669
FAX (603) 352-8798
email: reg4@wildlife.nh.gov



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE

NEW HAMPSHIRE NATIONAL GUARD
JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS
1 MINUTEMAN WAY
CONCORD, NH 03301-5607

May 15, 2019

27,331.00
TOTAL HELICOPTER
COST

SUBJECT: Aircraft Equipment/Consumables Expenses

Fish and Game Director, Mr. Glenn Normandeau
F&G Concord Headquarters
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Normandeau,

This letter is provided to inform you of the costs associated with the use of equipment and supplies by members of the New Hampshire Army National Guard (NHARNG) in response to a request from the NH Fish and Game Department to search for a missing male in the vicinity of Mount Moosilauke on 12 May 2019. The attached spreadsheet and worksheet contains a cost summary for the event and additional information that pertains to the support provided.

As permitted by National Guard Bureau (NGB) policy, the NHARNG intends to submit a request to waive recovery of aircraft operating costs from the State of New Hampshire. We will submit the waiver request following closure of the Federal Fiscal Year and notify you when we receive a response from NGB. Reimbursement is not due until NGB completes the waiver request determination. In the event the waiver request is not approved, the costs associated with this search are provided for your awareness as \$16,908.40.

If you have any questions in regard to costs please contact LTC Tony J. Gagnon at 227-1503 or via email at tony.j.gagnon.mil@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

Brian C. Elbert, Col, USAF
USPFO for New Hampshire

Enclosures

cc:
NH Adjutant General's Department

DARTMOUTH

Office of the Provost

Joseph J. Helble, PhD
Provost

joseph.j.helble@dartmouth.edu
603-646-2404

June 21, 2019

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2019

**LAW ENFORCEMENT
DIVISION**

Colonel Kevin Jordan
Chief of Law Enforcement
New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301-6500

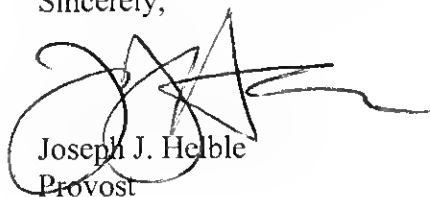
Dear Colonel Jordan,

I appreciated our discussion by phone and your letter of June 10th. I am enclosing Dartmouth's check for \$18,724.61 to cover your department's expenses in connection with the May 11-13 search and rescue effort on Moosilauke. The College is very grateful for your services.

Our investigation of the underlying circumstances is now complete. A copy of the Executive Summary of the measures we are pursuing as a result is enclosed for your information.

Our programs and the College look forward to continued positive partnership in the months and years ahead. Again, thanks to you and your colleagues for your dedication and commitment.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. Helble
Provost

Dartmouth College
 Procure to Pay
 Lebanon St., Suite 313
 Hanover, NH 03755
 (603) 646-3878
 Accounts.Payable@Dartmouth.edu

Check No. 2049713
 Check Date 20-Jun-19
 Vendor No. 5087

INVOICE NO.	INVOICE DATE	INVOICE DESC.	GROSS AMOUNT	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
OB575110	18-Jun-19	Search & Rescue-Lost Hiker	18,724.61	.00	18,724.61
TOTALS:					\$18,724.61

Detach at Perforation Before Depositing Check



Dartmouth College
 Procure to Pay
 7 Lebanon St., Suite 313
 Hanover, NH 03755

Bank of America
 Hanover, NH

No. 2049713

54-49
 114

VOID AFTER 90 DAYS			
CHECK DATE	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK AMOUNT	VENDOR NUMBER
20-Jun-19	2049713	\$18,724.61	5087

PAY EXACTLY Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars And Sixty-One Cents*****

To State of New Hampshire
 The 11 Hazen Dr
 Order Fish and Game Dept
 Of CONCORD, NH 03301
 United States

Jai Goodness
 AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DARTMOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

6/20/19

Executive Summary: Dartmouth Investigation Into May 2019 Mt. Moosilauke Incident

On May 11, 2019, a Dartmouth student became lost while hiking Mount Moosilauke as part of a “hiking overnight” trip offered and led by Dartmouth’s Outdoor Programming Office (OPO).

The student was found two days later near a hiking trail suffering from significant exposure-related injuries. Dartmouth engaged an external investigator to help examine its role in contributing to the conditions under which a student could become lost while on a College-led program and has found significant room for improvement. Dartmouth is committed to making certain an event like this never happens again by improving the standards, expectations and execution of OPO trips, increasing the performance and training of OPO personnel, and coordinating its trips more closely among all interested constituencies—OPO, the Office of Physical Education and Recreation (PE) and the students it serves.

The external investigator was asked to review all aspects of this event and to recommend operational and policy changes for the improvement and enhanced safety of OPO-led trips. This executive summary is intended to provide information to the public about the measures the College is initiating as a result of the confidential investigation.

Policy Changes, Practice Improvements & Training

OPO will take steps to improve the preparation of students on the trip including the conditions they might expect, the gear they would require, and appropriate ways for the group to approach the hike. The qualifications of OPO staff members who will lead trips will be more closely scrutinized for experience in challenging or adverse conditions, as will their adherence to OPO protocols.

In this same vein, the leadership of OPO will be required to personally review and approve the plans for all OPO-led trips. This review will be required to take place anew if there are material changes in the planned location, timing, or staffing of a trip.

Finally, PE will continue to review all OPO offerings submitted for PE credit. PE will not approve offerings that lack a contingency plan outlining alternative activities approved for PE credit in the event of bad weather or a significant change in circumstances.

Before this incident, OPO had initiated a risk review and program accreditation through the Association for Experiential Education (AEE). This work will continue as part of Dartmouth’s commitment to addressing the issues identified related to the Moosilauke hiking trip. AEE is a national organization that provides comprehensive standards for experiential and outdoor education programs to address program quality, professional behavior, and appropriate risk management.
